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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/119427
Filing Date	July 20, 1998
First Named Inventor	M. E. Sikso, et al
Group Art Unit	2126
Examiner Name	C. E. ANYA
Attorney Docket Number	WH997-001

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.33 (d) (PTO/SB/28) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 18, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14685 (Mar. 20, 2000); 1233 Off. Ger. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

a. Previously submitted
i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
iii. Other _____

b. Enclosed
i. Amendment/Reply
ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
iv. Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(l) required)
b. Other _____

3. Fees

a. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0629
i. RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
ii. Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
iii. Other _____

b. Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed
c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Anne Vachon Dougherty	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	30374
Signature	<i>Anne V. Dougherty</i>	Date	4/21/03

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: April 21, 2003
Fax No (703) 746-7239

Name (Print/Type)	Anne Vachon Dougherty	Date	4/21/03
Signature	<i>Anne V. Dougherty</i>	Date	4/21/03

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.